Favouritism in TV/Radio Programmes

859. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Programme Executives of TV and radio stations of North-East (especially Tripura) are ignoring eminent academicians of the colleges, Universities etc. of local area and have been providing opportunities to their own relatives and relatives of bureaucrats to participate in programmes set by them during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made and action taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OFTHE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING ANDTHE MINISTER OFSTATB OFTHE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIARUN JAITLEY): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that they have received no such complaint. Participants are booked on the basis of their merit and their expertise on the subject of the programme.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Services of TV and Radio Stations in North-East States

860. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state;

(a) The names, locations, frequency and its strength, covering area time and durations of services of TV and radio stations in North-East States;

(b) The time allotted per day by the TV and radio stations for telecasting and broadcasting the socio-cultural programmes during the last three years;

(c) Whether Government have any plan for expansion and all round development of TV and radio services in the North-East; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MJNISTEROF STATE OFTHE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OFTHEMINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The Details of All India Radio and Doordarshan Stations/Kendras in the North-East are given in Statement-I and 11 respectively *(See* below).